



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,449	11/10/2005	Masakazu Funahashi	28955.4034	2290
27890	7590	12/14/2007	EXAMINER	
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP			BARTS, SAMUEL A	
1330 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.				
WASHINGTON, DC 20036			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1621	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/14/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/552,449	FUNAHASHI, MASAKAZU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Samuel A. Barts	1621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-8 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5, 9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of the elected species of compound 11 in the reply filed on 9/24/07 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that complete search would necessarily encompass all compounds. This is not found persuasive because the examiner is only required to extend the search to the point where patentability of the claims can be determined. Moreover, prior art that anticipates one species would not necessarily render obvious the other species. This would require the examiner to continue the search for all patentably distinct species. This additional searching is a serious burden to the examiner.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The elected species was deemed to be free of prior art. In addition, claims 2-5 **when R1 is a substituted or unsubstituted secondary or tertiary cycloalkyl group** was determined to be free of art. Claims limited to this definition of R¹ will be allowed.

Status of Claims

3. Claim 1-5 and 9-10 are rejected.

Claims 6-8 are withdrawn from consideration as not being directed to the elected invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Enokida et al (US 5,5759,44 and US 6,251,531).

6. Applicant claims are drawn to a genus of compounds which are useful for making EL devices. Enokida discloses a genus of compounds¹ which embrace the instant claims when R¹ is a secondary or tertiary alkyl group. Enokida discloses a genus wherein R¹⁻⁸ may be a substituted alkyl group. This definition of alkyl embraces the instant claims language wherein R1 is a secondary or tertiary alkyl group. In addition, the compounds have the same utility.

7. Thus it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that applicant's invention was made to have made the instant claimed compounds where R¹ is a secondary or tertiary alkyl group. Moreover, a skilled artisan would have had a reasonable expectation that the compounds would be useful for making EL devices. Thus a skilled artisan would have been motivated to make the instant claim compounds wherein R¹ is a secondary or tertiary alkyl group in order to make organic electroluminescence devices.

Conclusion

¹ See abstract for example.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel A. Barts whose telephone number is 571-272-2870. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler can be reached on 571-272-0871. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Samuel A Barts/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1621

sb